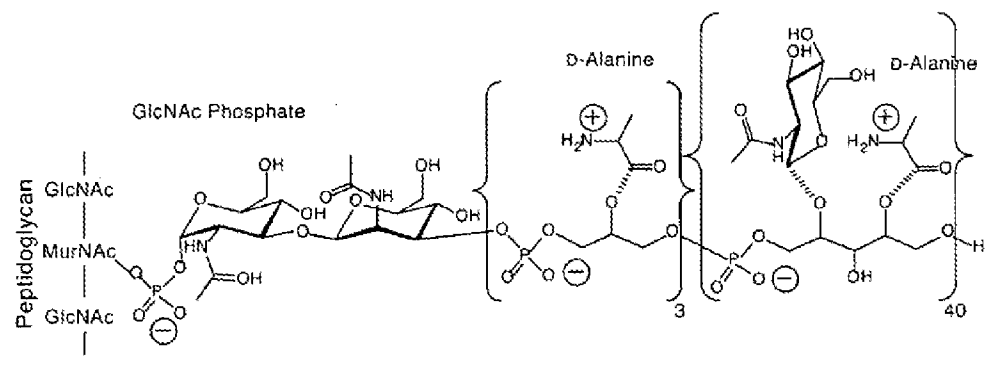


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-17. **(Cancelled)**

18. **(Currently Amended)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a monoclonal antibody or an antigen binding fragment thereof that specifically binds to a ribitol phosphate wall teichoic acid (WTA) ~~of Figure 1A~~ of *S. aureus* and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said therapeutically effective amount of said antibody or fragment thereof alleviates or blocks nasal colonization or infection by *S. aureus* upon administration to a patient, and wherein the WTA is:



19.-20. **(Cancelled)**

21. **(Original)** The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a multiplicity of MAbs that specifically bind WTA

22. **(Original)** The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

23. **(Original)** The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a humanized antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

24. **(Original)** The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a human antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The composition of claim 18, wherein the fragment is chosen from the group consisting of Fab, Fab¹, F(ab')₂, Fv, SFv, and scFv fragments.

26.-27. **(Cancelled)**

28. **(Previously Presented)** A passive immunotherapy comprising: (a) the composition of claim 18; and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

29.-38. **(Cancelled)**

39. **(Withdrawn)** A method for preventing or treating a staphylococcal infection in a patient, which comprises instilling into the patient a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of the composition of claim 18.

40. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a polyclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

41. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

42. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a multiplicity of Mabs that specifically bind WTA, wherein the Mabs have non-identical amino acid sequences.

43. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

44. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a humanized antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

45. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a human antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

46. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of at least one anti-staphylococcal drug.

47. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 46, wherein the anti-staphylococcal drug comprises lysostaphin, nisin, or both.

48. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection is selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

49. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the antibody fragments are chosen from Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, Fv, SFv, and scFv.

50. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection is an *S. aureus* infection.

51. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the instilling comprises one or more of nasal instillation, oral instillation, airway instillation, or systematic instillation.

52. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is at risk of, or suffers from, at least one of cystic fibrosis, staphylococcal pneumonia, a staphylococcal contamination of a foreign body, a staphylococcal infection, and staphylococcal nasal colonization.

53. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is a mammal.

54. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is human.

55. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection comprises *S. aureus*.

56. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one antibiotic anti-staphylococcal drug.

57. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 56, wherein the at least one antibiotic anti-staphylococcal drug comprises mupirocin, bacitracin, or both.

58. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one lanthione-containing molecule.